

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1 – 25. (Cancelled)

26. (New) A method comprising:

detecting a change to a database system, wherein said detecting includes determining a value of an attribute of said database system;  
comparing said determined value to a previously acquired value of said attribute of said database system;  
predicting the likelihood of the detected change affecting the operation of the database system;  
based on said comparing, generating an indication of the magnitude of said detected change of said system attribute; and  
displaying said likelihood of the detected change affecting the operation of the database system and said indication of the magnitude of the detected change to a user.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising:

predicting at least two outcomes related to said database system indicated by said detected change;  
subsequently monitoring the database system to detect whether one or more of the predicted outcomes has occurred; and  
if one or more of the predicted outcomes has occurred, reporting the one or more occurred predicted outcomes to the user.

28. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said detected change indicates a change in response latency to an input provided to said database system.

29. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said attribute of said database system is related to the number and/or type of transactions executed by the database system.

30. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said attribute of said database system is related to timing information associated with transactions executed by the database system.

31. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said attribute of said database system is related to configuration information associated with the database server or related to data schema of the database system.

32. (New) A system comprising:

- a processor; and

- a memory storing program instructions executable by the processor to:

- detect a change to a database system, wherein said detecting includes determining a value of an attribute of said database system;

- compare said determined value to a previously acquired value of said attribute of said database system;

- predict the likelihood of the detected change affecting the operation of the database system;

- based on said comparing, generate an indication of the magnitude of said detected change of said system attribute; and

- display said likelihood of the detected change affecting the operation of the database system and said indication of the magnitude of the detected change to a user.

33. (New) The system of claim 32, further comprising program instructions executable by the processor to:

- predict at least two outcomes related to said database system indicated by said detected change;

- subsequently monitor the database system to detect whether one or more of the predicted outcomes has occurred; and

- if one or more of the predicted outcomes has occurred, report the one or more occurred predicted outcomes to the user.

34. (New) A computer readable memory medium including program instructions executable to:

- detect a change to a database system, wherein said detecting includes determining a value of an attribute of said database system;

- compare said determined value to a previously acquired value of said attribute of said database system;

- predict the likelihood of the detected change affecting the operation of the database system;

- based on said comparing, generate an indication of the magnitude of said detected change of said system attribute; and

- display said likelihood of the detected change affecting the operation of the database system and said indication of the magnitude of the detected change to a user.

35. (New) The memory medium of claim 34, further comprising program instructions executable by the processor to:

- predict at least two outcomes related to said database system indicated by said detected change;

- subsequently monitor the database system to detect whether one or more of the predicted outcomes has occurred; and

- if one or more of the predicted outcomes has occurred, report the one or more occurred predicted outcomes to the user.

36. (New) A system comprising:

- first means for detecting a change to a database system, wherein said detecting includes determining a value of an attribute of said database system;

- second means for comparing said determined value to a previously acquired value of said attribute of said database system;

- third means for predicting the likelihood of the detected change affecting the operation of the database system;

- fourth means for generating an indication of the magnitude of said detected change of said system attribute, wherein said generating is based on said comparing; and

fifth means for displaying said likelihood of the detected change affecting the operation of the database system and said indication of the magnitude of the detected change to a user.